

SECOND CHANCES

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

-1 Corinthians 6:9-11-

THESIS: I hope this sermon will answer a lot of questions that we may not have known that we needed to answer.

INTRODUCITON:

- A) Imagine a little boy named John.
 - 1) Throughout his life he learns right from wrong.
 - 2) Of course, when he does things wrong his Father corrects him.
 - 3) If John tells his Father that he is sorry, then his Father would forgive him.
 - 4) But on the other hand, when John got older and more rebellious, he began to not care about how his Father felt.
 - 5) And so John did as he pleased, and terribly disappointed his Father.
 - 6) John soon ran away from home.
 - 7) He was all on his own. No one to tell him what to do. No one to tell him when to go to bed. No one to tell him where he could or couldn't go. No one to bother him. Nowhere to sleep. Nothing to eat. No one to bring him where he wanted to go. No one to love him, so it seemed.
 - 8) So John when home to his Father in hopes that his Father would forgive him.
 - 9) And of course, he did.
 - 10) John asked Father if he could, "Please, just let me start over again."
 - 11) And his Father took him back in.
 - 12) Reminds me of the Prodigal Son.
- B) We have all done things that we wish we wouldn't have done.
 - 1) We look for a second chance.
 - 2) "God, if you will just give me one more chance I will never to it again!"
- C) Do we really intend to change?
 - 1) Sure, we may mean it when we say it, but are we really going to change?
 - 2) You have repented, but was that repentance brought about by Godly sorrow or were you just feeling sorry for yourself?
 - 3) God has given many "second chances" to those were faithful to Him.
- D) Today we will look at two main points:

SECOND CHANCES

- 1) Second Chances Recorded in the Bible.
- 2) Our Second Chance as Seen in the Bible.

--Keep this story in mind as we cover the text.

DISCUSSION:

I) Second Chances Recorded in the Bible.

A) **The Flood} second chance for humanity. –**

- 1) Gen 6:5-8 -- 5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD.
- 2) If you were Noah what would you think?
 - a) To know that every human would come from you.
 - b) That God chose your family to replenish the earth.
- 3) We should be thankful for this second chance.
 - a) God could have just decided to destroy all of humanity.
 - b) Then we would not even exist.

B) **The Israelites} Captivity. –**

- 1) Exodus 3:16-17 --16 ¶Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: 17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.
- 2) God brings plagues.
 - a) Parted the red sea.
 - b) They were given a second chance.

C) **The children of Israel were brought out of captivity. ---**

- 1) Numbers 14:33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness. 34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise. 35 I the LORD have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die. 36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation

SECOND CHANCES

to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land, 37

Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the LORD. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.

- 2) There wouldn't have been a book of Deuteronomy if they would have listened the first time.
 - a) Now, their children must go in.
 - b) Notice that Joshua and Caleb were allowed to go in because they didn't lie about the land, they wanted to obey the Lord.
- 3) They were given a second chance.
 - a) Of course, we know that the children of Israel were given many more 2nd chances.
 - b) Very similar to a Christians forgiveness today.
 - (1) Even with our brethren.
 - (2) God continually forgives His children.

D) Jonah} commanded to preach to the Ninevites. –

- 1) Jonah 1:1 - Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me. 3 But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.
- 2) Jonah had no intentions of obeying the Lord.
 - a) But after vs 17 “Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah.”, he had a slight change of heart.
 - b) Chapter two tells of Jonah asking for forgiveness from God.
- 3) He was given a 2nd chance.
 - a) And so God says, “Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee.”
 - b) Jonah preached and they repented.

II) Our Second Chance.

SECOND CHANCES

A) Why do I need a "Second Chance"?

- 1) Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:--Romans 5:12
- 2) And what does John record in reference to sin?
- 3) "But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death...And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life." Rev 21:8,27

B) To whom is this salvation offered.

- 1) Salvation is offered to all men.
 - a) Titus 2:11-12 - For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to **all men**, 12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;
 - b) We must remember that offered and accepted are two different things.
 - c) All men are offered Salvation, but not all men will accept that salvation.
- 2) Who does the Bible say obtains salvation?
 - a) John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever **believeth** in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.
 - b) Acts 2:38 – Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be **baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.
 - c) Romans 10:9-10 – That if thou shalt **confess** with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe** in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
 - d) Hebrews 5:8-9 – Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal **salvation unto all them that obey** him;

CONCLUSION:

- A) Today the Lord's invitation is a second chance for you.
- B) We can see the mercy and longsuffering of God in the "Second Chances" that are seen throughout the Bible.
 - 1) 2Peter 3:9 - The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.
 - 2) But we also know that HIS longsuffering will one day end.

SECOND CHANCES

- a) There is an appointed day when Christ will judge the world -- Acts 17:31
 - b) If we die before that day of Judgment there will be no more chances to change. -- Hebrews 9:27
 - c) We must all appear before that judgment seat, there are no exceptions. --2Cor 5:10
 - d) The judgment will begin with the house of God. -- 1Peter 4:17-18
 - e) And the books of our lives will be open. --Rev 20:12-14
- 3) What will He find in your book?
 - 4) Will your name be written in the Lamb's Book of Life?
- C) Today is your Second Chance!
- 1) If you desire to become a child of God,
 - 2) Or you need to be restored...